

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Poland  
SUBJECT Uniforms and Equipment of the KBW

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Description of Uniforms and Individual Equipment for Officers and EM of the Internal Security Corps (Korpus Bezpieczenstwa Wewnetrznego -- KBW)

1. The winter dress uniform for officers and NCO's was of khaki gabardine or cheviot. For privates it was of a khaki rough wool cloth. The summer dress uniform for all personnel was of cotton twill (drelich) material.

- a. The service and field uniforms were the same as the dress uniform; EM received old uniforms for service and field use.

b. 

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Summer and Winter Uniforms

2. All the clothing and equipment listed below was retained by the soldiers throughout the entire year and was turned in upon discharge. The change from winter to summer uniforms occurred in April.

- a. The following summer season clothing was worn from April to October:

Quan.	Item	Material	Color	Issue Period (yrs.)	Remarks
1	Blouse, new, standup collar	Cotton	Khaki	2	Dress and parade. /See Annex A/
1	Blouse, old, standup collar	Cotton	Khaki	2	Drill and field duty.

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<u>Quan.</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Color</u>	<u>Issue Period (yrs.)</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1 pr.	Trousers, new	Cotton	Khaki	2	Dress and parade.
1 pr.	Trousers, old	Cotton	Khaki	2	Drill and field duty.
1	Shirt, without collar	Cotton	Khaki	2	Turned in for laundering every 10 days.
1 pr.	Drawers, long	Cotton	White	2	Turned in every 10 days and replaced with laundered ones.
1 pr.	Drawers, short	Cotton	White	2	Turned in every 10 days and replaced with laundered ones.
1 pr.	Foot wraps	Cotton	Khaki	2	Same as above.
1 pr.	Service shoes	Leather	Brown	2	--
1	Garrison belt	Leather	Brown	2	--
1	Trousers belt	Leather	Brown	2	--
1 pr.	Wrap leggings	Cotton	Brown	2	Discontinued in 1948.
1 pr.	Short leggings	Cotton	Brown	2	--
1	Overseas cap	Cotton	Khaki	2	--
1	Field cap	Cotton	Khaki	2	--
1	Service cap	Wool	Khaki	2	--
b. The following winter season clothing was worn from November to March:					
1	Blouse, new standup collar	Wool	Khaki	2	Dress and parade.
1	Blouse, old standup collar	Wool	Khaki	2	Drill and field duty.
1 pr.	Trousers, new	Wool	Khaki	2	Dress and parade.
1 pr.	Trousers, old	Wool	Khaki	2	Drill and field duty
1	Overcoat, new	Wool	Khaki	2	Worn for all types of duty.
1	Shirt	Wool	Khaki	2	Turned in every 10 days for laundering.
1 pr.	Drawers, long	Wool	White	2	Turned in every 10 days for laundering. Three pairs were issued when going out on field duty.

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c. The equipment issue consisted of the following items:

<u>Quan.</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Color</u>	<u>Issue Period (yrs.)</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1	Field bag (75 x 50 cm.)	Tarpaulin	Khaki	2	--
1	Spoon	Tin or aluminum	--	2	--
1	Mess kit	Tin or aluminum	--	2	--
1	Needle and thread kit	--	--	2	--
2	Blankets	Wool	Tan	2	--
2	Bed sheets	Cotton	White	2	Turned in for laundering every 10 days.
2	Pillow cases	Cotton	White	2	Same as above.
1	Shelter half	Cotton	Khaki	2-3	--
1	Grenade pouch	Cotton	Gray	2-3	Capacity-3 F-1 grenades.
1	Rifle cleaning brush	--	--	2-3	--
1	Helmet	Steel	Khaki	--	For length of service.

### Insignia of Rank

3. Insignia of rank in the KBW was worn on the shoulder loops and on the front of the hatbands. The stripes were made from silvered-cloth material or solid white metal, and had a very narrow red piping on the edges. All personnel had to purchase their own rank insignia. Stars for the officers' rank insignia were of silvered cloth.

### Polish Rank

### Description of Rank Insignia

Starszy Strzelec -- Sr. Rifleman	One bar
Kapral -- Cpl.	Two bars
Plutonowy -- Jr. Sgt.	Three bars
Sierzant -- Sgt.	Inverted V stripe
Starszy Sierzant -- Sr. Sgt.	Two inverted V stripes
Chorazy -- WO	One large star
Podporucznik -- 2d Lt.	One small star
Porucznik -- 1st Lt.	Two small stars
Kapitan -- Capt.	Three small stars
Major -- Maj.	Two bars and a star
Podpulkownik -- Lt. Col.	Two bars and two stars
Pulkownik -- Col.	Two bars and three stars
General Brygady -- Brig. Gen.	One W stripe and a star
General Dywizji -- Maj. Gen.	One W stripe and two stars
General Broni -- Lt. Gen.	One W stripe and three stars
Marszalek -- Marshal	One M stripe and baton

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- a. The color of caps worn by the various branches of service within the Polish Armed Forces was as follows:

<u>Branch of Service</u>	<u>Color</u>
Inf.	Khaki
Arty.	Khaki
Tank	Dark blue
KBW	Khaki
WOP	Khaki
Air Force	Blue
SP	Khaki

- b. The piping worn on caps, trousers and jackets was approximately two centimeters wide and was as follows:

<u>Branch of Service</u>	<u>Color</u>
KBW	Medium blue
Inf.	Red
Arty.	Dark red
WOP	Green
Air Force	Light blue

- c. The color of the hat bands corresponded to the color of the piping. Special sleeve and shoulder insignia were worn in the KBW / See Annex. B7. /

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4. There was no shortage of clothing or clothing material. Soldiers were not allowed to keep their uniforms upon discharge from the service.

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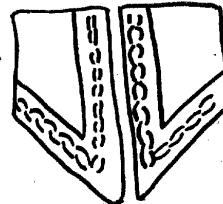
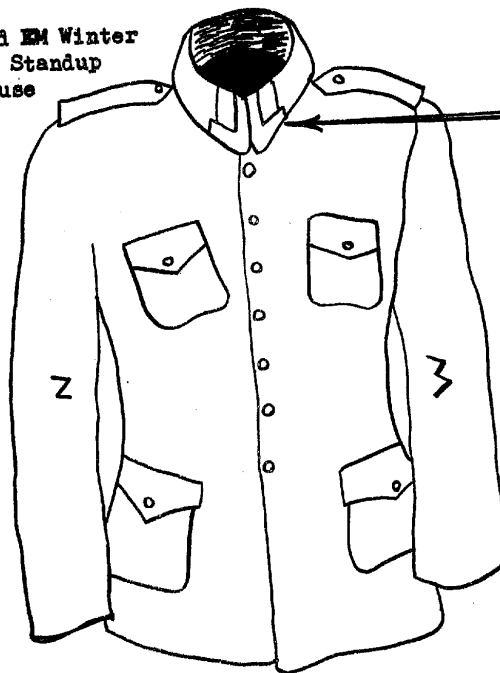
Annex A

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Standup and Roll Collar Blouses Worn by Personnel of the  
Internal Security Corps (KBW - Korpus Bezpieczenstwa Wewnetrznego)

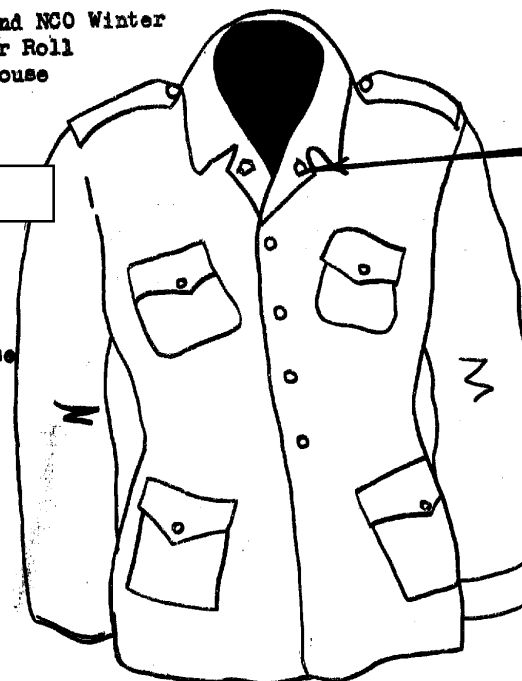
Officer and EM Winter  
and Summer Standup  
Collar Blouse



Collar Flash

with zig zag pattern,  
worn by senior rifle-  
men and higher grades.  
The silver pattern  
increased in width  
with each higher rank.

Officer and NCO Winter  
and Summer Roll  
Collar Blouse



Lapel Flash

was of a medium-blue  
color for KBW personnel.  
Officers and NCOs had to  
purchase their own lapel  
flashes, as they were  
not an item of issue.

this blouse  
would  
eventually  
replace the  
standup  
collar blouse  
for all  
military  
personnel.

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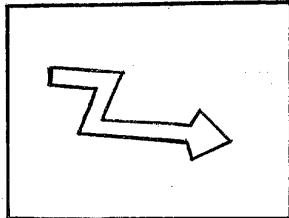
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Annex B

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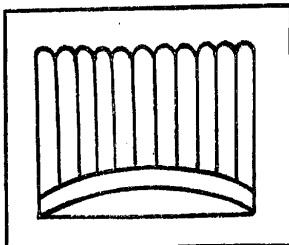
- 6 -  
Enclosure 3

Sleeve and Shoulder Insignia Worn by Troops of 3d Internal Security Corps (KBW - Korpus Bezpieczenstwa Wewnetrznego) Brig at LUBLIN (5115N-2234E)



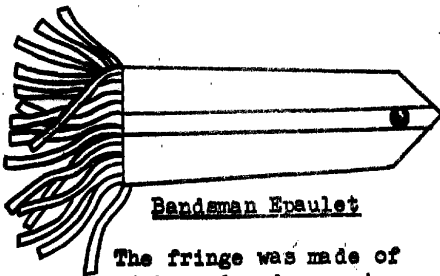
Signal Troop Insignia

The wearing of this insignia, shown here in approximately the actual size, was not mandatory. It was usually worn by NCOs, and had to be purchased by the individual.



Heavy Machine Gunner (CKM) Insignia

Same as insigne shown above.



Bandman Epaulet

The fringe was made of pink cord and sewn to the shoulder loop. A red and white stripe, 1.3 cm wide, ran lengthwise through the center of the shoulder loop.



Automobile and Truck Drivers' Insignia

This insigne was made of white stamped metal, and was worn on the shoulder loop, as indicated.    
  not all drivers wore this emblem.

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